

NEWSLETTER OF THE RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | VOLUME LI, NO. 8

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2019 Gina Vecchio 401-354-2366 Lawrence E.Wilson 860-857-5493 lewilson3rd@gmail.com

2020 Gigi Mitchell-Velasco, Jonathan Babbit

2021 Fred Jodry Philip Martorella

www.riago.org

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Fellow Guild Members,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone back on the bench and ready for another church season. Many members have been renewing their memberships and I want to welcome them back. Also, we have been notified by National that we have several new members. I want to welcome them, as well. Our wonderful program chair, **Gigi Mitchell-Velasco**, has planned many interesting and varied events for the year. (See last month's issue for a complete listing.) Our opening event will be at the First Baptist Church in Providence on the topic of Diversity. Gigi will comment more on this evening in her article below. Have a wonderful year. I hope to see many people on October 15 at 7:00pm.

Stephen Kirby, Dean (loftynotes@aol.com)

WELCOME TO RIAGO'S 2018-19 SEASON OPENER, FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE!

Our opening event is upon us, and as Program Chair, I wanted to make sure that you all knew about the first exciting offering which will also include our opening meeting: **DISCOVERING DIVERSITY, Monday, October 15, 7:00 pm, First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence.**

Don't miss the opportunity to be with us for our Discovering Diversity event which kicks off our 2018-19 season. We will be hosted by the First Baptist Church in America and welcome their Senior Pastor, **Rev. Jamie Washam**, as our newly appointed Chaplain of RIAGO. With this 'Year of Discovery,' our new RIAGO season, we all felt it was important to seek out relationships with others, and in so doing, highlight our own diversity as an organization. We hope to build on this subject and keep the conversation going with other clergy around the state, to forge and maintain strong relations within the Rhode Island clerical community. In future years, we hope to feature different clergy and denominations in further talks and round table discussions.

This year's event will begin with a keynote speech from Chaplain Jamie, then a sharing of new resources for hymns on social justice, diversity and modern language. Fresh from a hymn conference in New York, FBCIA's Minister of Music **Stephen Martorella** will also speak and offer brand new resources hot off the press! If you have a favorite hymn that fits this category, by all means bring it to share with us.

Gigi Mitchell-Velasco, Program Chair

See AGENDA on next page



INTRODUCING REV. JAMIE WASHAM

Young and fearless, Rev. Jamie Washam, senior pastor of the First Baptist Church in America was called to be their 37th Settled Minister in 2015. Jamie is a seventh-generation Texan, born and raised in Midland, in a Southern Baptist household. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Austin, Texas and moved to Boston to pursue her Master's studies. She was ordained in 2001. To hear her speak is to hear a giant, and one is drawn in by her passionate execution and the intense sincerity, clear in each word she speaks. She is, in a word, "brave." Her world ideas and her convictions involving diversity and social justice are as large as her big heart and love of her family and love for her congregation at the First Baptist Church in America. She has stood up for those who are in need of an advocate and have none. Over and over, she has spoken on the steps of the church alongside other notable clergy in the state and has testified in front of the House Judiciary Committee, always backed by her loving and dedicated congregation. On issue after issue, she has supported and advocated for those who have no voice.



"It is time to move beyond a culture of punishment to one that reduces harm, respects and restores the dignity of all persons..."

-Rev. Jamie Washam

MEETING AGENDA, OCTOBER 15

•Welcome Address, Remarks – Stephen Kirby, Dean •Introduction of Chaplain, Rev. Jamie Washam – Stephen Martorella

- •Keynote Address Chaplain Jamie
- •Short Hymn Sing, talk by Stephen Martorella
- •Brief Business Meeting & Installation of Officers
- •Refreshments sweet treats of cakes and pastries

PLACEMENT LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) to list

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 3/18 111 East Shore Rd., Warwick, RI 02889 The Rev. Susan Wrathall day 401-737-3127 eve 401-617-0380 Steere & Turner \$16,000 O/D

St. Mary's Episcopal Church 3/18 3055 Main S., PO Box 395, Barnstable, MA 02630 Rev. Dr. Libby Gibson 508-362-3977 rector@stmarys-church.org Wilhelm \$35-40,000 Minister of Music

The First Universalist Church of Providence4/18250 Washington St., Providence, RI02903The Rev. W. Scott Axford401-751-0821\$150/servicepipe organOrganist/Director

EVENTS

Saturday, October 13 at 7:30 pm: *Quirks and Oddities*: quirky tunes and odd texts. Featuring Britten: *Rejoice in the Lamb*, and Marc Hoffeditz: Missa Brevis Brevis, and music of Whitacre, Part, Gleilo, Dello Joio, and Nystedt.

Old West Church, 131 Cambridge Street, Boston. Online: \$15; \$20 at the door-cash or check.

Also **Sunday, October 14 at 3:00 pm**: First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence. Suggested donation: \$20, cash or check. www.thebrooklineconsort.org

Monday, October 15 at 7:00 pm: RIAGO Opening Meeting See pages 1, 2 for details, agenda.

Sunday, October 21 at 5:30 pm: Memorial Organ Recital at S. Stephen's Church with choirmaster and organist James Busby and guest Kevin Darrow, oboe. Works of Clérambault, J. S. Bach, W. A. Mozart, Mendelssohn, Franck, Guy Bovet, Joseph-Ermend Bonnal, and Vierne. Free; free-will offering to benefit the music program. Reception follows the service. All welcome. 114 George Street, Providence.

SUBMISSIONS

DEADLINE: 20th of each month. SUBMISSIONS: Send Word or Text files to <u>altheaallard@gmail.com</u> or to Althea Allard, 166 Suffolk Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02861. ADVERTISING: Word doc, PDF (print ready), JPG (high resolution), or TIFF. All files should be grayscale at 300 dpi resolution. Email to <u>altheaallard@gmail.com</u>

SUBSTITUTE LISTINGS

Contact Julie Tagen (401-225-9594) with changes. AVAILABLE SUNDAYS & WEEKDAYS Babbitt, Jonathan 401-864-9009 Casteel, Eden: 401-932-5589 Castellani, Roger: 917-621-6530 Available after Sept., 2016 Clarke, Margaret: 401-726-4128 (all) Higgins, Stephen: 401-441-2270 (comfortable with any keyboard situation) Johnson, Winfred: 401-847-8548 (interim) Jones, William: 401-848-4327 (all) Karen Kohl: 401-787-2695 Please Inquire MacCubbin, Jay: 401-521-0698 Nicholson, Nancy: 401-521-9097 (all) Norton-Jackson, Diana: 401-714-2700 (no weddings) Phelps, Howard: 508-224-8475 (please inquire) Tagen, Julia L.: 401-225-9594 (all, weddings/funerals/interim) Taylor, Terry: 401-253-9030 (tutti@fullchannel.net) Vecchio, Gina: 401-954-2163 Vinson, Duncan: 781-888-3848 Westhaver, Verna: 401-683-2636 (substitute/interim) Wilson, Lawrence: 860-857-5493

AVAILABLE WEEKDAYS ONLY

Allard, Althea: 401-728-4431 Black, John: 401-737-1230 (all, available Saturdays & weekdays) Cranmer, David: 401-447-9848 Martorella, Philip: 401-615-0769 (no Sun. a.m.) Sobaje, Martha: 401-626-0099 (weddings, funerals)

MEMBER MATTERS

We note with sadness the news of the passing of longtime member **Lois Conboy**, who died in Minnesota. Our condolences go out to her husband, Pastor Tom Conboy and her family and friends. Services will be held at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 126 Angell Road, Cumberland, with calling hours 4-8 on Friday, October 12 and Service to the Witness of the Resurrection at the church on Saturday, October 13 at 10:30 am.

(To contact Tom: Revconboy@verizon.net)

ADVERTISING RATES

1/4-page ad (3.5"W x 5"H): \$18 -or- 1/8-page ad (3.5"W x 2.5"H): \$10 Flyers you provide (for RIAGO members): \$10. Make checks out to RIAGO and mail to Althea Allard by the 20th.